

# gateway

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University of Nebraska at Omaha

## CCS Urges Credit By Exam Policy Change

If CCS has its way, students taking the general College Level Exam (CLEP), could receive up to 24 credit hours in liberal arts.

CLEP general exams measure achievement in five basic fields: English composition, humanities, mathematics, natural sciences and social sciences. (There are also subject matter CLEP tests which measure achievement in only one field such as algebra or English.)

The existing university policy on CLEP credit (effective Sept. 1), states for general exams, a student can receive three hours credit in natural sciences, humanities and social sciences. (A total of nine hours.) Test scores must be in the 50 percentile or above for credit. A student can receive an additional three hours in humanities if he scores in or above the 85 percentile.

No credit is given for the math and English portions of the general exam. To receive credit in these areas students must take a CLEP subject matter exam or another test approved by the appropriate department.

CLEP tests are available to all students. But this wasn't the case three years ago. CCS Dean William Utley said beginning in the 1950's only CCS used CLEP exams for credit. Then "about three years ago UNO was approached and asked to serve as an official administrator of these tests," so all university students could benefit.

### Less Credit

But here's the problem, under the old system credit was awarded differently. Students could receive a total of 30 hours for a CLEP general exam. This included six credit hours for each academic field.



William Utley

Obviously the old policy gave more credit for previous academic achievement.

According to CCS counselor Frank Russell, his college is concerned because incoming boots are affected by the new policy. It means they lose up to 21 hours or almost a year of work on their degrees.

He said CCS would like to see the policy changed again, reverting to six credit hours in all areas except English.



Richard Lane

English credit would continue to be given through a subject matter test, because the general test is not very extensive.

"We want it changed," Russell said, "because if we don't it will restrict a lot of students in the boot program from coming here. They wouldn't have enough credits to get here. The argument for this is if they don't come here, they go somewhere else."

Russell said the proposed increase in CLEP credit for boots could be justified because, "when they come here, bootstrappers on the whole have a higher academic average." So if "the product seems to be all right" giving more CLEP credit "doesn't seem to be bad business."

Russell also said "if you start reducing the number of boots your financial situation is not particularly good. He said about 98 per cent pay non-resident tuition. Russell had no readily available figures on the number of boots which will be affected but, "it could reduce them by about half." This means over 400 of the 825 boots expected in 1972-73 probably wouldn't come to UNO.

### Review Requested

Russell hopes the policy will change because "we feel the standards set here are quite universal throughout the nation and other schools. Everyplace is giving credit these days for not being in the classroom and credit for experience and knowledge. What we're doing with CLEP is going backward instead of forward."

CCS Dean Utley said his college has requested a review of the policy but denies it as just a move to aid boots. "Of course it's a natural area of concern," he said, "but looking from a standpoint of a total university, we're interested in getting the same privileges for all students. CCS would be delighted to see the policy change" because it would benefit every student.

Utley said the college is not requesting a return to the 25 percentile for determining credit. This figure was only used before, he said, because it was

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## Equal Opportunity Grants

### UNO Aid Falls Short

By Carol Schrader

An almost obscure article in the June 12 *Omaha World-Herald* announced the receipt of \$3.4 million in federal aid for Nebraska schools during the next fiscal year.

The article enumerated 26 schools that will get \$1.4 million in Educational Opportunity Grant monies and the 29 institutions which will gain a combined \$2 million under the College Work-Study Plan. A casual survey of the colleges listed in the article and their respective shares of the allocations has raised eyebrows of those who saw it.

Of the colleges receiving Educational Opportunity Grant funds, UNO ranks only 15 in the top 17. All of the state colleges receive over double the amount of UNO and tiny private schools such as Wesleyan, Midland, York, College of St. Mary, Concordia, John F. Kennedy, Doane and Union colleges receive more funds than UNO.

### Top Recipient

UNL is the top recipient with \$503,163 with the next fund-getter, Kearney State, receiving \$149,680. The money moves down the scale from there with \$26,836 earmarked for UNO.

Dean of Student Personnel

Donald Pflasterer recalled when the first grant funds were allocated in 1966. "We were a municipal university at the time the program was initiated and HEW informed us that we had to match any funds we applied for with cold cash."

He said that other loans funds could not be held up as the matching money and that due to the financial straits of the University of Omaha a large amount of cash could not be offered.

"So we started small," he continued, "and although the 'cold cash' has been eliminated from the matching funds requirement, we're only allowed a small percentage increase each year." Pflasterer attributes this to the deficient UNO share.

"It's almost as though those smaller colleges could see into the future when they put up the initial matching sum or entered the program later," he added.

### Weak Spot

Even with this particular weak spot in UNO's financial aid offerings, Pflasterer insisted "we're not in bad shape."

In the Work-Study Plan UNO is second only to its big sister and Chadron State. The Lincoln campus will receive \$657,857 and Chadron \$354,468. The

Omaha campus will come out with only \$91,760. The next highest is Creighton University with \$51,984.

In commenting on UNO's future in the two programs Pflasterer was not optimistic. "Unless they change the formula for increases, we won't get much better."

When asked about Chadron's impressive place in the work-study standings, Director of Financial Aid Don Roddy looked back to the beginning of that program as well. "The University of Omaha was almost bankrupt when this program began also (1965). We didn't have the matching funds."

Roddy agreed with Pflasterer that some administrators knew what was happening. "John Harms, Chadron's administrative assistant, was closely associated with the federal government when this began," he said, "so they got into it big in the beginning."

The work-study funds decreased approximately 20% in all Nebraska schools this year, according to Roddy. "They (the government) tried to fund everyone up to 80% of their last year's allocation," he stated.

Roddy concluded by insisting that "we're pulling for a supplemental increase."

## Task Force Suggests Uniform Student Input

Last fall Regents Task Force Five urged student participation at departmental levels.

Force Five, a student and faculty committee under the Regents Commission for Urban University in the 70's researched existing practices and found some representation exists in some departments but not all. As a result, the force recommended all departments and colleges have formal student representation.

But that's as far as things went — until June 13.

At a meeting of the UNO Deans' Council, Dean of Academic Affairs, William Gaines urged action. Gaines asked deans to bring the recommendation to the attention of their departments and to report "an inventory of present practices" to him by Sept. 1. At that time the council could decide if more action is necessary.

Student participation indeed varies from department to department and college to college. The task force was concerned with how many students are represented, should graduate students be serving and how much should students be involved. This varies too.

Those departments which already have student representatives have been interested in student input for several years.

### Some Input

According to Education Dean Paul Kennedy, his college "has had student representation quite a bit in various departments." The college has a student representative on the Curriculum Committee and Professor's Education Committee. A Dean's Advisory Committee includes presidents of three student organizations: Kappa Delta Pi, men's physical education majors; the Student Education Association and the Student Council for the Exceptional Child.

Of the various departments in arts and sciences, those such as history, political science, sociology, English and art have student representatives.

Dr. D. C. Scott, political science chairman, said "we have a graduate representative and the faculty elects an undergraduate. These two then select a third student, for a year's term. We've been talking about this a long time before the task force," he said. "Students have a right to input so what the heck, let them have their input."

The history department has graduate students serving on certain committees but no undergraduates. Chairman Dr. Harl Dalstrom said there are certain obstacles to undergraduate representation "in the

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# Editorial

## CCS Moves To Save Boots

The new policy on credit for the general CLEP exams reduces the number of hours from six in most subject areas to three. (see story page one.)

The change has created a bit of a problem in the College of Continuing Studies, or so it seems. As it turns out the reduction in credit means CCS students could lose a maximum of 21 hours formerly applicable to their degrees.

According to CCS counselor Frank Russell, this could be disastrous for boots. As many boots must acquire their degrees in two years or less, the new policy could prevent almost half the boots from enrolling next year. (Russell said for the past few years about 900 boots attended UNO both semesters.)

So CCS wants the policy changed — increasing credit to six hours in all subject areas but English.

CCS Dean William T. Utley denies this as just a move to save the boots. He says it's for the other students' benefit as well, though the boots plight "is an area of natural concern." Utley said he's requesting the change because new information concerning the CLEP's value has come to

his attention. He urges department chairmen to consider this and increase allowable credit.

But according to Russell, saving boots (not to mention the non-resident tuition they pull in), is the prime motivating factor behind the CCS drive to increase CLEP credit.

CCS is obviously out to protect its own and although this is understandable there are indications the college may be pushing too hard to have the policy changed. For example, as a result of the CCS thrust one department head briefly entertained the idea of just increasing credit for CCS students, alone.

Although Arts and Sciences Dean Richard Lane said the decision to increase credit is in the hands of department chairmen — where it belongs — he'll insist on common equity for all students. If the credit is increased all students taking CLEP must receive it and not just CCS. There can't be any discrimination for one group.

If CCS succeeds, the policy change will benefit all students, but one question still remains. If the existing policy did not adversely affect boots would the college still be as interested in changing it?

# TYPOS

By Cheeko

## Lesson On Lending

Dear Friends and Infidels:

the last of the big time suckers is also the great spiritual leader of this campus.

'Tis indeed sad that people of God such as myself seem to be the prime targets for the thieving money changers of infamy. (A scourge which has been recorded as far back as biblical times.)

We should as good, fair-minded, self-indulgent, single folks follow the example of Christ and kick the bastards out of the temple or better yet entrap them within the temple.

Of course there are those of you who will quote the famous "Forgive us our debtors." This phrase, however, was never meant to apply to college students and spiritual mystics, for we are advised instead to honor them as they honor the Lord. In my case this is worth approximately \$5.

To all those who honor false debtors I say a spiritual up yours.  
Love and Kisses, Chico

## Student Loan Freeze Temporarily Imposed

If you're counting on a federally insured student loan to get through second summer session or the fall term you could be in trouble.

The department of Health, Education and Welfare has notified the financial aid office of changes in the Guaranteed Student Loan Program which were effective July 1.

According to assistant financial aid director Mary Lynn James, the changes mean "we can't run through any federally insured student loans for awhile."

James said the cut-off will affect an unestimated number of students. "We probably run more money through this program than others," she said.

According to old procedures, a student could fill out an application, have financial aid approve it and take it to any lending institution.

James said "under the Education Amendments of 1972, the financial aid office must review applications and determine how much students need and should get." Previously, she said, veteran's benefits, parental support and other aid students might already receive was not considered.

James said the office expected changes but had no idea loans would be temporarily stopped. HEW has not indicated when loan processing will resume. Only those students who had loans processed before July 1 can expect their money.

## Around Campus

### SPARE

SPARE (Summer Project Action to Renew the Environment) volunteer have taken on a job as big as their name — to clean up Omaha. 50 youths, hired by the city, began their first big project of the

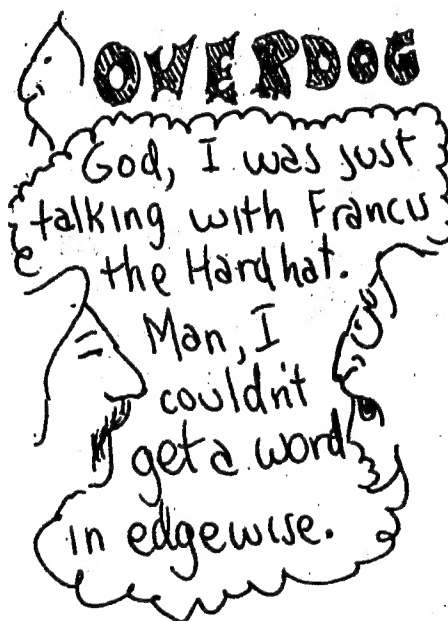
summer June 11, by opening recycling centers for glass, metal containers and newspapers at Hinky Dinky stores throughout the city. The centers will be open for ten weeks from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

### Job Openings

Vice Chancellor for Educational and Student Services. Job description forthcoming.

Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance. Job description forthcoming.

Executive Assistant to the Chancellor. Job description forthcoming.



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Sports ..... Steve Pivovar

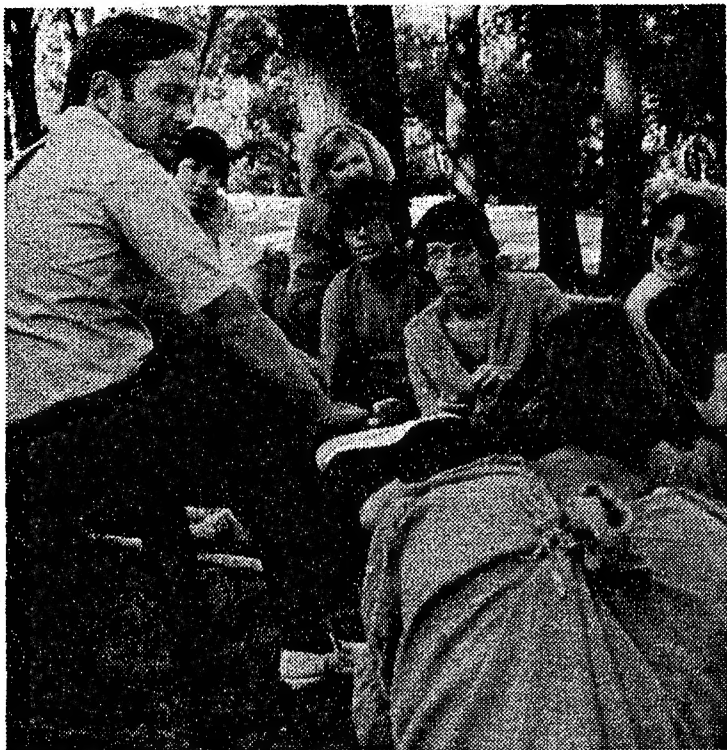
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Robert Moore directs *Gammer Gurton's Needle* on the Elmwood ravine stage.

## Ravine Sets Stage For 'Gurton's Needle'

By Gary Norton

If you have been walking in the ravine area below the administration building and been puzzled by a seeming out-of-place crude set of construction, don't be. This is the set for the production of *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, one of the three plays to be presented for the Summer Repertory Theater.

The 1972 season of the UNO Summer Company is now in its third year. The cast for the three plays is made up of students and townspeople who receive a pittance of a salary for their efforts in the productions.

Dr. Robert Moore, the director of *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, described the people in the summer company as "hard-working and very willing types." They have to be able to do almost anything from acting to building a set, he said, "For the amount that they put into the company they are very poorly paid."

### Cast Interacts

Regarding the production he is directing Moore stated "this is the type of play that the cast interacts with the audience. It's very alive and vibrant with spirit that can't be created in a theater."

*Gammer Gurton's Needle* was chosen specifically for the setting in which it will be given. "With the University and Studio Theaters being occupied by the other two plays it was necessary to find a place and a play to suit our needs. This play does exactly that."

There was a certain amount of red tape to go through to secure the use of the ravine area for the production. "We had to contact several people in the park department to obtain their permission but it didn't take too great an effort to do this. We found that they co-operated quite willingly."

In putting on an outdoor performance of *Gammer Gurton's Needle* there are several problems bound to arise. One of these is in the direction of the show itself. Moore called it a "challenge for the director and especially the actors. The show must be kept at a fast and lively pace with a fairly consistent pattern throughout it. The actors must be able to improvise because when you're in that close contact with the audience there is bound to be interaction of some sort. When someone makes a smart remark to a cast member he must be able to come back with one of his own."

### Chief Worry

Moore's chief worry is the weather. "The production goes on at two in the afternoon and if the weather is bad it will just have to be cancelled. We simply can't move it anywhere else and I don't see how we could reschedule it. Everyone has commitments after the regular performances."

*Gammer Gurton's Needle* involves Diccon, a prankster, who has been released from a mental institution as a harmless lunatic and is licensed to wander about the countryside as a beggar. He sets Gammer Gurton at odds with her neighbor Dame Chat over the alleged theft of a needle and then enjoys the confusion he has caused.

### Unreal World

The production in the Studio Theater is *America Hurrah* by Jean-Claude van Itallie. It is a biting satire comprised of three small segments — Interview-comic treatment of employment interviews; TV-showing the unreal world of a television studio; and motel — which illustrates the irony of our ways of destroying the affluent advantages we have created for ourselves. Irwin Schlass is the director for this production.

Dr. Edwin Clark is the director for *Mary, Mary* by Jean Kerr. This play, which will be presented in the University Theater, is the comical story which delves into the problems of a marriage on the rocks.

Students and faculty members will be admitted on presentation of their ID card. Non-students' single admission for the studio and University Theater will be \$1.50. The performances in the ravine are free.

Performance schedules are:

*Mary, Mary* (Univ. Theatre)

Fridays and Sat. July 7, 8, 14 & 15 at 8 p.m.

*America Hurrah* (Studio)

Thursdays and Sun. July 6, 9, 13 & 16 at 8 p.m.

*Gammer Gurton's Needle* (Ravine)

Thur. thru Sunday July 13, 14, 15 & 16 at 2 p.m.

## Policy Could Limit Boots

(Cont'd from Page 1)

recommended by the American Council on Education. UNO determined this was too low and raised it to 50. Utley accepts this change. He's only requesting a credit increase because "we now have information and a wide range of material from all over the country which had not been screened in looking over these tests before."

Liberal arts departments must approve the change Utley proposes. Arts and Sciences Dean Richard Lane said credit by examination is "the responsibility of the cognizant department." Any policy change would be directed by the department chairmen.

Lane agrees there might be a problem with boots, although "I don't know there's any evidence we will lose boots because of this. Certainly those setting university policy on credit by examination have no intention of being punitive to anybody. We were out to put credit by

examination where it belongs — in the hands of the departments and available to all students.

"We weren't trying to hurt any student in the university when the new policy was drafted," he said. "I think if the cognizant department feels an exam is not worth six hours they're the people to judge."

Lane said boots may be adversely affected. "I hope they're not but all students should be treated the same way. We shouldn't discriminate for one group."

### Change Possible

Several department heads indicated the tests are being restudied but stressed if policy is changed it won't be just for boots. They also agreed the existing policy wasn't meant to penalize CCS students.

Dr. George Barger, sociology, said "I don't think any of us in social science realized we were penalizing CCS." He said credit was reduced and the percentile for scoring raised to 50 because exams were very general.

Mathematics chairman Dr. Paul Haeder said no math credit will be given because the test is weak. However, he said the department is restudying the test and may make a change.

Science credit may be raised to six hours according to Dr. John McMillan, physics. But he stressed this must be made available to all — not just CCS.

Even if CCS had requested it, students taking the general CLEP wouldn't receive six hours English credit. Department chairman Bruce Baker said he wouldn't approve this because the CLEP exam "is hardly equivalent."

What if the policy isn't changed and CCS went ahead and awarded more credit? According to Lane, "if they went ahead I'd see to it that all their graduates would be contested." But Utley said CCS will adhere to the policy if it's not changed. "The only thing we could do is inform CCS applicants of the new policy."

## Off To Canada Instead

By Greg Knudsen

If you'd just missed a free trip to Sweden, how would you like an all-expense-paid trip around Canada this summer?

Jerry Prazan wouldn't mind. That's why he took off last Tuesday to participate as one of ten Americans in *Contact Canada*.

Jerry was runner-up in the *Experiment in International Living's* (EIL) annual travel scholarship. The winner, Tony Keber, is in Sweden as this year's EIL Ambassador from UNO.

Jerry never expected anything to come from being runner-up in the EIL program. He realized that the winner always managed to make the trip and the runner-up designation was an honor, not a passport. So, Jerry signed up for a summer course in calculus and expected to continue his job at the post office all summer.

That was before the telegram: "Congratulations. You have been selected one of ten Americans to participate in *Contact Canada*, program administered by the U.S. and Canadian state departments this summer." Upon receiving the telegram, "I told my boss and dropped out of summer school the same day," said Jerry.

*Contact Canada* will draw about 160 young people from different countries. The state

departments of the U.S. and Canada set specifications for the selection of participants.

How did Jerry Prazan get selected from thousands of young Americans? The state department asked the *Experiment in International Living* to provide the 10 candidates. EIL went to their existing ambassador runner-up files. According to John Wright at the *Experiment's* headquarters in Vermont, "Jerome (Jerry) was one of these who met all of the criteria."

*Contact Canada* will last for three weeks as Jerry tours and studies our northern neighbor's history and the cultural contrasts of the English/French provinces.

Jerry will begin a one-week homestay with a Canadian family on July 4 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The itinerary that arrived at Jerry's house after he had departed listed an intentionally loose outline of the program to "leave you something unexpected to anticipate."

The homestay will include group activities for at least four of the days. On July 13, the program will take to the outdoors for camping, canoeing and hiking in Kejimikujik National Park. The camping winds up the program.

Jerry will hopefully return to Omaha on July 19 with a greater knowledge and respect for the upper half of North America.

## More Student Input Sought

(Cont'd from Page 1)

sense that departmental meetings reach points at which there's sometimes a discussion of topics of quite a controversial nature." If students are present, he said, particularly when an individual faculty member is involved other professors might have reservations about speaking freely.

But Dalstrom does see the usefulness of students on certain committees. "A rule of thumb" to follow in deciding where students should serve is "what decision making processes are

undertaken and what particular bearing does action have on students? In those cases it's appropriate to have student representation."

But two departments which have no student representatives have no immediate plans for them. Dr. Paul Haeder, mathematics, said "We have no plans at the present time for students to attend department meetings. Our department meetings are staff meetings. Students," he said, "are pretty much at a loss to do planning in a mathematics program. It's

rather technical in nature. I don't feel in general they'd be able to put any input in."

Biology's Dr. Paul Prior, said he hasn't given the idea any thought. He didn't know of the task force recommendation. Prior said when an individual student can contribute something "we hope he will."

The task force recommendation is primarily aimed at those colleges without student input but it also recommends uniform student representation throughout the university.

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